

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 01951 250704Z

12

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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O R 250605Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 12

INFO USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 1951

EXDIS

FOR EUR AMBASSADOR COOPER, SCOTT GEORGE, JOAN CLARK

BONN: FOR AMBASSADOR HILLENBRAND

EO11652: GDS

TAGS: ABLD, AFSP, GE, PDIC

SUBJECT: OPENING OF EMBASSY AND ARRIVAL OF AMBASSADOR

REF: BERLIN 1925

1. ON OCTOBER 24 I VISITED THE PROPERTY ON MAJAKOWSKIRING 50 WHICH THE GDR HAS OFFERED AS A TEMPORARY DCM RESIDENCE UNTIL THE AMBASSADOR'S PERMANENT RESIDENCE IS READY FOR OCCUPANCY. THIS PROPERTY, ALTHOUGH IT HAS ITS OWN DRAWBACKS, REPRESENTS A VIABLE ALTERNATIVE TO HEINRICH-MANN-STRASSE AS A TEMPORARY RESIDENCE FOR THE AMBASSADOR. FOLLOWING ARE ITS LEADING CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) THE KITCHEN IS SIGNIFICANTLY LARGER THAN THAT OF THE HEINRICH-MANN-STRASSE.

(B) THOUGH DIVIDED INTO FOUR ROOMS NONE OF WHICH IS LARGE, THE GROUND FLOOR IS MORE LOGICAL IN ITS LAYOUT THAN THAT OF THE HEINRICH-MANN-STRASSE. THERE IS A CLOAKROOM, AND A ROOM THAT COULD SERVE AS BUTLER'S PANTRY. THE DOWN-STAIRS BATHROOM, HOWEVER, ALSO CONTAINS A BATHTUB.

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(C) THE RESIDENCE IS LOCATED IN AN ATTRACTIVE SECTION OF PANKOW WITH LITTLE STREET NOISE.

3. THE MAIN DRAWBACK IN THE MAJAKOWSKIRING PROPERTY IS A LACK OF SPACE FOR SERVANTS. ALTHOUGH ONE ROOM ON EACH FLOOR COULD BE USED FOR THIS PURPOSE, THERE IS NO WAY TO PROVIDE A SEPARATE FLOOR FOR SERVANTS OR SEPARATE BATHROOM FACILITIES.

4. I HAVE ASKED THE DLA TO PROVIDE A FLOOR PLAN SKETCH OF THE MAJAKOWSKIRING HOUSE.

5. A LOOK AT THE INSIDE OF THE NORDENDSTRASSE PERMANENT RESIDENCE PERSUADES ME ALL THE MORE THAT THE PROCESS OF RENOVATION WILL TAKE MANY MONTHS.GROVE

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Message Attributes

Automatic DecapTIONing: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC MISSION OPENING, REAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 OCT 1974
DecapTION Date: 28 MAY 2004
DecapTION Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BERLIN01951
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740304-1089
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741017/aaaaaohl.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: BERLIN 1925
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <12 MAR 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OPENING OF EMBASSY AND ARRIVAL OF AMBASSADOR
TAGS: ABLD, AFSP, PDIP, GC, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005